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# OAPIA Bi-Weekly Newsletter

***News Updates from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs***

## A Message from the Director

### Dear Community Members:

In order to better assess and serve the housing needs of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA), in collaboration with the Office of the Tenant Advocate (OTA), launched the AAPI Tenants' Rights Awareness Campaign on June 24, 2014.



The educational campaign will help raise awareness of tenants' rights through various outreach efforts and recommend solutions to limited and non-English proficient AAPI residents on how to resolve various housing issues, from dealing with emergency housing assistance to seeking assistance in communicating with a landlord.

Additionally, OAPIA is conducting a housing needs assessment survey to gather information on various housing concerns and issues among AAPI tenants and renters in the District. The survey is available in [English](#), [Chinese](#), [Vietnamese](#), and [Korean](#).

OAPIA welcomes all AAPI DC tenants and renters to participate in the AAPI Tenants' Rights Awareness Campaign. For more information, please visit [www.apia.dc.gov](http://www.apia.dc.gov).

Warm Wishes,

Soohyun "Julie" Koo  
Director, DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

## OAPIA in the Community

### OAPIA Participates in Chinatown Clean Up Day



*Participants of Chinatown Clean Up Day.*



*Volunteers clean the streets in Chinatown.*

On Wednesday, July 2, 2014, OAPIA, the Office of the Clean City, and volunteers from the Chinatown Community Cultural Center (CCCC) joined together in efforts to help beautify the Chinatown neighborhood. Volunteers partnered with registered "Adopt-a-Block" business owners to clean streets and pick up trash on designated blocks. OAPIA hopes that this opportunity will help raise environmental awareness within the AAPI community.

## Greetings from the Community Outreach Assistant



Hello everyone, my name is Frank Huynh, and I am one of the Community Outreach Assistants for the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs.

### **How long have you been in DC?**

I have resided in the lovely Foggy Bottom area for approximately the past four years, but I have recently relocated myself to Arlington, VA in the not-so-distant Crystal City.

### **What brings you to DC and what do you enjoy most about DC?**

I originally came down from New York to DC for my undergraduate studies at the George Washington University; however, I now continue to stay here as a part of the wonderful OAPIA team. One of the best things about DC is the diversity not only in its people, but in its food! Having a plethora of cuisines to choose from, whether it be ramen for lunch or shawarma for dinner, is truly a treat for the stomach.

### **How do you stay engaged within the community?**

While my work with OAPIA allows me to engage the AAPI community on a daily basis, I also do volunteer work on the side for the Vietnamese American community with the non-profit Union of North American Vietnamese Student Associations (UNAVSA), where I serve as the Entertainment Director for this year's national leadership conference.

### **Own Words**

Summertime for me means being outdoors as much as possible! Be sure to take some time out of your week to explore DC and see what this amazing city has to offer. You never know where your next adventure will take you!

If you enjoyed reading this profile, please visit [I am AAPI in DC](#) to read additional community member profiles or to submit your own profile!

## Spotlight: Korean American Bar Association of Washington, DC (KABA-DC)



The Korean-American Bar Association for the Washington, DC Area (KABA-DC) was established in 2009 to be the voice for Korean Americans in the legal profession in the Greater Washington, DC metropolitan area. KABA-DC's main goal is to promote and improve the common professional and business interests of Korean American lawyers and others in the legal profession. KABA-DC also fosters professional development, legal scholarship, advocacy and community involvement.

For more information on [KABA-DC](#) or ways to get involved, please visit [here](#).

## July is UV Safety Month





July, also known as UV Safety Month, is dedicated to bringing awareness to the growing health risks related to long term exposure of the sun's ultra violet rays. Melanoma is one of the most commonly acquired types of cancer and it's the most deadly consequence from prolonged sun exposure. Other ailments include wrinkles, age spots, leathery skin, weakened immune system, and eye problems.

Here are some ways you can protect your skin: staying in the shade, especially between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm since that is when the sun is the most intense; applying and reapplying broad-spectrum sunscreen throughout the day; and wearing clothing and accessories that covers your arms, legs, head, and eyes. When making outdoor activity arrangements, it is wise to review the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s [UV Index forecast](#) for the expected risk of overexposure to UV radiation.

For more information on UV Safety Month or related resources in the District, please visit:

- [Healthfinder.gov: July: UV Safety Month](#)
- [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: UV Safety](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Skin Cancer](#)

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